

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing apparatus comprising:

development mode deciding means for automatically deciding which one of development modes is used, including a vector mode in which printing data described in the printer control language to be developed into image data by a printing device is created, and an image mode in which printing data described in an image mode to be used in printing by said printing device is created; and

print setting deciding means for automatically deciding a plurality of print setting items in the printing data to be instructed to said printing device when the printing data is created in the development mode decided by said development mode deciding means.

2. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

spool means for spooling, as intermediate data, a printing instruction received from an application via an OS; and

discriminating means for analyzing the spooled intermediate data and discriminating characteristics of information to be printed,

wherein said development mode deciding means and said

print setting deciding means make decisions in accordance with the characteristics of the information to be printed, which have been discriminated by said discriminating means.

3. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said development mode deciding means includes an option for designating one of the development modes including said vector mode and said image mode, and an option for designating an automatic selection mode of automatically deciding which one of the development modes is used, one of said two options being able to be manually designated.

4. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein, in said development mode deciding means, the option for designating the automatic decision mode is set to an initial default.

5. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

printing data creating means for creating, in the development mode, printing data that includes print setting information designated by the print setting items containing at least one of printing resolution, printing gradation and shade.

6. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 5, further comprising:

transmission processing means for controlling a process of transmitting the printing data created by said printing data creating means to said printing device via a network.

7. An information processing method comprising the steps of:

a development mode deciding step of automatically deciding which one of development modes is used, including a vector mode in which printing data described in the printer control language to be developed into image data by a printing device is created, and an image mode in which printing data described in an image mode to be used in printing by said printing device is created; and

a print setting deciding step of automatically deciding a plurality of print setting items in the printing data to be instructed to said printing device when the printing data is created in the development mode decided in said development mode deciding step.

8. An information processing method according to Claim 7, further comprising:

a spool step of spooling, as intermediate data, a

printing instruction received from an application via an OS;
and

a discriminating step of analyzing the spooled
intermediate data and discriminating characteristics of
information to be printed,

wherein said development mode deciding step and said
print setting deciding step make decisions in accordance
with the characteristics of the information to be printed,
which have been discriminated in said discriminating step.

9. An information processing method according to Claim
7, wherein said development mode deciding step includes an
option for designating one of the development modes
including said vector mode and said image mode, and an
option for designating an automatic selection mode of
automatically deciding which one of the development modes is
used, one of said two options being able to be manually
designated.

10. An information processing method according to
Claim 9, wherein, in said development mode deciding step,
the option for designating the automatic decision mode is
set to an initial default.

11. An information processing method according to

Claim 7, further comprising:

a printing data creating step of creating, in the development mode, printing data that includes print setting information designated by the print setting items containing at least one of printing resolution, printing gradation and shade.

12. An information processing method according to Claim 11, further comprising:

a transmission processing step of controlling a process of transmitting the printing data created in said printing data creating step to said printing device via a network.

13. A program product executed by an information processing apparatus, said program product comprising:

a development mode decision module for automatically deciding which one of development modes is used, including a vector mode in which printing data described in the printer control language to be developed into image data by a printing device is created, and an image mode in which printing data described in an image mode to be used in printing by said printing device is created; and

a print setting decision module for automatically deciding a plurality of print setting items in the printing data to be instructed to said printing device when the

printing data is created in the development mode decided by said development mode decision module.

14. A program product executed by an information processing apparatus according to Claim 13, further comprising:

a spool module for spooling, as a spool file in the form of intermediate data, a printing instruction received from an application via an OS; and

a discriminating module for analyzing the intermediate data in said spool file and discriminating characteristics of information to be printed,

wherein said development mode decision module and said print setting decision module make decisions in accordance with the characteristics of the information to be printed, which have been discriminated by said discriminating module.

15. A program product executed by an information processing apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein said development mode decision module includes an option for designating one of the development modes including said vector mode and said image mode, and an option for designating an automatic selection mode of automatically deciding which one of the development modes is used, one of said two options being able to be manually designated.

16. A program product executed by an information processing apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein, in a user interface presented by said development mode decision module, the option for designating the automatic decision mode is set to an initial default.

17. A program product executed by an information processing apparatus according to Claim 13, further comprising:

a printing data creating module for creating, in the development mode, printing data that includes print setting information designated by the print setting items containing at least one of printing resolution, printing gradation and shade.

18. A program product executed by an information processing apparatus according to Claim 17, further comprising:

a transmission processing module for controlling a process of transmitting the printing data created by said printing data creating module to said printing device via a network.

19. An information processing apparatus comprising:

development mode selecting means allowing users to make selection to designate one of development modes including a vector mode in which printing data described in the printer control language to be developed into image data by a printing device is created, and an image mode in which printing data described in an image mode to be used in printing by said printing device is created, or to designate an automatic decision mode of automatically deciding which one of the development modes is used;

print setting means for setting a plurality of print setting items in the printing data to be instructed to said printing device; and

user interface providing means for providing a user interface which, when said automatic decision mode is selected, does not accept the setting made by users on those of said plurality of print setting items that should be automatically decided in said automatic decision mode, but accepts the setting made by users on those print setting items that are allowed for users to set.

20. An information processing method comprising the steps of:

a development mode selecting step allowing users to make selection to designate one of development modes including a vector mode in which printing data described in

the printer control language to be developed into image data by a printing device is created, and an image mode in which printing data described in an image mode to be used in printing by said printing device is created, or to designate an automatic decision mode of automatically deciding which one of the development modes is used;

a print setting step of setting a plurality of print setting items in the printing data to be instructed to said printing device; and

a user interface providing step of providing a user interface which, when said automatic decision mode is selected, does not accept the setting made by users on those of said plurality of print setting items that should be automatically decided in said automatic decision mode, but accepts the setting made by users on those print setting items that are allowed for users to set.

21. A program product executed by an information processing apparatus, said program product comprising:

a development mode selection module for providing a user interface which includes an option for designating one of development modes including a vector mode in which printing data described in the printer control language to be developed into image data by a printing device is created, and an image mode in which printing data described in an

image mode to be used in printing by said printing device is created, and an option for designating an automatic decision mode of automatically deciding which one of the development modes is used; and

a print setting module for setting a plurality of print setting items in the printing data to be instructed to said printing device;

said development mode selection module providing a user interface which, when said automatic decision mode is selected, does not accept the setting made by users on those of said plurality of print setting items that should be automatically decided in said automatic decision mode, but accepts the setting made by users on those print setting items that are allowed for users to set.